

**Assembly Bill No. 215**

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Passed the Assembly June 1, 2005

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*Chief Clerk of the Assembly*

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Passed the Senate August 22, 2005

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*Secretary of the Senate*

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This bill was received by the Governor this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_M.

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*Private Secretary of the Governor*

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

An act to amend Section 20400 of, and to add Section 9093.5 to, the Elections Code, relating to elections.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 215, Oropeza. Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

Existing law permits candidates for office to subscribe to a specified "Code of Fair Campaign Practices." Existing law requires elections officials to accept all completed Code of Fair Campaign Practices forms signed by candidates for public office at all times prior to the election and to retain those forms for public inspection until 30 days after the election.

This bill would require the Secretary of State to print the Code of Fair Campaign Practices in the state ballot pamphlet, and to indicate in that pamphlet the availability of a list of those candidates for statewide elective office who have subscribed to the code, as specified. The bill would require the Secretary of State, on his or her Internet Web site, to identify candidates for state or federal offices who have voluntarily subscribed to the code, and to post the text of the code on his or her Internet Web site.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 9093.5 is added to the Elections Code, to read:

9093.5. The Secretary of State shall cause to be printed in the state ballot pamphlet the Code of Fair Campaign Practices, and shall indicate in that pamphlet the availability of a list of those candidates for statewide elective office who have subscribed to the code on the Secretary of State's Web site and by contacting a local elections official.

SEC. 2. Section 20400 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

20400. (a) The Legislature declares that the purpose of this chapter is to encourage every candidate for public office in this state to subscribe to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

(b) It is the ultimate intent of the Legislature that every candidate for public office in this state who subscribes to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices will follow the basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play in order that, after vigorously contested, but fairly conducted campaigns, the citizens of this state may exercise their constitutional right to vote, free from dishonest and unethical practices which tend to prevent the full and free expression of the will of the voters.

(c) The purpose in creating the Code of Fair Campaign Practices is to give voters guidelines in determining fair play and to encourage candidates to discuss issues instead of untruths or distortions.

(d) To further the purposes of the Code of Fair Campaign Practices and to encourage every candidate for public office in this state to subscribe to it, the Secretary of State shall post a declaration identifying all candidates for a state or federal office who have voluntarily subscribed to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices and the text of that code on the Secretary's Internet Web site where the certified list of candidates is displayed.

(e) A local elections official may post the information required to be posted by the Secretary of State pursuant to subdivision (d) on his or her jurisdiction's Internet Web site.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2005

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*Governor*